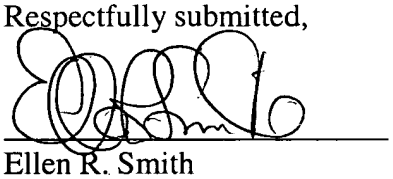
REMARKS

Claims 1-7 are pending. Applicants amend claim 1 to more clearly define the present invention. Specifically, in view of the Examiner's remarks in the Advisory Action (paper no. 17), Applicants amend claim 1 to clarify that the belt structure *consists* of three rubberized cord layers. Entry and consideration of this Amendment are respectfully requested.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373
PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Ellen R. Smith
Registration No. 43,042

Date: January 14, 2003

Attorney Docket No.: Q55806

APPENDIX

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

The claims are amended as follows:

1. (Three Times Amended) A pneumatic radial tire comprising[;] : a radial carcass having at least one rubberized cord ply extending between a pair of bead cores embedded in a pair of bead [portion] portions and reinforcing a pair of sidewall portions and a tread portion,

a belt reinforcing the tread portion at an outside of the carcass and consisting [comprised] of three rubberized cord layers each containing steel cords therein, an innermost cord layer and a middle cord layer among these cord layers being a cross cord layer that cords of the layers are crossed with each other with respect to an equatorial plane of the tire, and

one or more circumferential grooves provided in at least each side region of the tread portion, the cords of each of the innermost cord layer and the middle cord layer have an inclination angle of 10-25° with respect to the equatorial plane, and cords of an outermost cord layer have an inclination angle of 45-115° with respect to the equatorial plane as measured in the same direction as in the cords of the middle cord layer, and the outermost cord layer has a width extending toward an end of the tread portion over an outermost groove edge of an outermost circumferential groove in a widthwise direction of the tread portion.